

Join the C.R.E.W

The Coalition to Restore the Eastern Wolf (CREW) combines the expertise and strength of more than 30 local, regional and national conservation organizations (see below for complete list). Our mission is to facilitate the recovery of the eastern wolf in as much of its former range in the northeastern U.S. and southeastern Canada as feasible. To learn more, please mail the coupon or contact CREW at P.O. Box 157, Kents Hill, ME 04349.



ABOUT WOLVES IN THE NORTHEAST


The wolves of northeastern North America generally weigh 50 to 100 pounds; males are larger than females. Their thick coats are usually gray, but may be black or white. Until a century ago, wolves were found throughout the northeastern United States and southeastern Canada.

Most wolves live in small family groups or packs that typically consist of a breeding pair of adults, their pups from that year, and a few other related adults. Litters are produced in April or May, and average from four to seven pups. Some offspring stay with the pack, while others move to new territory.

“In short, wolves belong here. The East will not be fully renewed until their packs wander its mountains again. That this is even a real possibility is a wonder, nearly a miracle.”

– BILL MCKIBBEN
Author,
The End of Nature

Where Wolves Belong: After being driven to near-extinction in the continental U.S., the wolf is making a comeback as part of restoration projects from Montana to North Carolina. Can the wolf be restored to portions of its ancestral range in the Northeast? This brochure introduces the case for wolf recovery. To learn more, please contact the Coalition to Restore the Eastern Wolf (CREW).

Photos: all wolf photos by Scott Stewart except inside flap (closeup) Kent Weber; mountain photo Gary Randorf / Adirondack Council; lake photo M. Kellett . Map: Alex Tait / Equator Graphics, courtesy of Defenders of Wildlife
 www.publicmediacenter.org



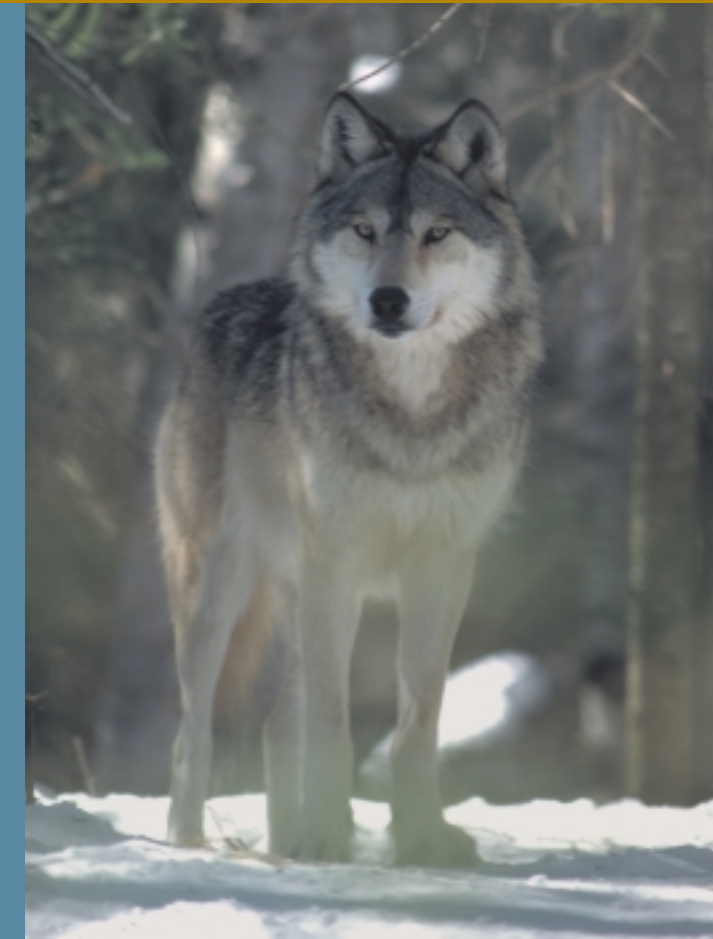
COALITION TO RESTORE THE EASTERN WOLF (CREW)

Adirondack Council / Biodiversity Legal Foundation / C.L.A.N.: Wolf Defenders / Defenders of Wildlife / Environmental Advocates / Forest Ecology Network / Forest Watch / Greater Laurentian Wildlands Project / A Hunter's Voice / Institute for Environmental Learning / Keeping Track / Loki Clan Wolf Refuge / Maine Wolf Coalition / Mission: Wolf / Mt. Kearsage Indian Museum / National Wildlife Federation / Native Forest Network / New Hampshire Wolf Alliance / Northeast Ecological Recovery Society / North American Wolf Foundation / Northern Appalachian Restoration Project / The Northern Forest Forum / Predator Conservation Alliance / RESTORE: The North Woods / Sierra Club / Sinapu / Southern Appalachian Biodiversity Project / Vermont Institute of Natural Science / The Wildlands League / Wild Dog Foundation / Wild Earth / Wild Sentry / The Wolf and Wild Canine Sanctuary / Wolf Conservation Center



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THE CASE FOR RESTORING THE EASTERN WOLF



For the health of our forests, for the good of our souls, it's time to make peace with the wolf. The wolf's song was silenced in the Northeast by habitat destruction and bounty hunting almost exactly 100 years ago. In the last century, forests have grown back across much of the Northeast. Many wildlife species have also returned to the recovering landscape, but wolves have not been among them. Human barriers — highways, urban areas and other development — hinder the wolves' return from Canada.

Restoring the wolf to its natural range is a critical step toward making our northern forests whole again. Similar insight has launched wolf recovery efforts across the U.S. From North Carolina to Yellowstone National Park, from New Mexico to Minnesota, wolves are once again living free and wild. *Isn't it time Northeasterners joined so many other Americans in welcoming the wolf home?*

Wolves Restore Nature's Balance

Many myths surround the legendary wolf: fairy tales of ferocity disguise the fact that it was humans who hunted wolves to the death — never the other way around. Perhaps because they embody the untamed American wilderness, itself once considered alien and threatening, wolves were poisoned, trapped and shot across the continent —

brought to the brink of extinction before we realized how much we depend on their presence.

Now we know that balance is everything. This includes the intricate dance of predator and prey.

Like bears, mountain lions and other top predators, wolves help keep wildlife populations in check. In turn, the numbers of their prey (from moose and deer to beavers and hares) determine

how many wolves can survive. This natural balance was the rule in our forests for many thousands of years.

Only in recent history have we seen what happens when wolves are absent: without their role in the food web, the natural order breaks down. The real danger lies in the absence of wolves.

Wolves and Humans Together...Again

Given the long-time “demonization” of wolves, it's only natural for people to wonder if it's safe to live alongside them. The fact is, wolves have much more to fear from us than we do from them. While some 20 Americans die each year from attacks by domestic dogs, history reveals that no person has ever been killed by a wolf in the wilds of North America.

Wolves are elusive by nature and generally steer clear of people. The key to successful wolf recovery is finding areas that can support (and be supported by) wolves without

forcing them into highly settled areas close to population centers. Simply put, wolves need prey, wild land and safety from humans to thrive.

Are wolves a threat to livestock and game hunting? Recent experience shows that livestock losses increase only a fraction of one percent where wolves reside, and funds raised by private groups compensate for the losses. Meanwhile, game populations and their habitat actually remain plentiful and become healthier when wolves return to their natural habitat (evidence that wolves help lead an ecosystem to dynamic recovery).

Restoring Wolves to the Northeast

From New York's Adirondack Park, across northern Vermont and New Hampshire, to the Maine Woods, researchers are identifying areas where wolves can survive and help entire ecosystems flourish while coexisting with people. The idea, after all, is to make sure wolves do not remain merely a memory in the Northeast.

Successful restoration requires understanding and cooperation from all citizens. That's why CREW — the Coalition to Restore the Eastern Wolf — invites you to explore the possibilities with us, and take part in the planning from the very beginning. For the first time in 100 years, we have the opportunity to apply all we have learned about our relationship with the natural world to make the forest whole again. The wolf is a living symbol that reconnects us to the Northeast's wild legacy.

Please take a moment to fill out and mail the coupon. It will allow you to take a direct role in welcoming the wolf back to its ancestral home.



“Top predators are the true indicators of ecosystem health. If they are not there, trouble is in the making.”

— JOHN TERBORGH
Ecologist



I Want to Hear the Wolf's Song

What you can do: The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service needs to know that you support wolf recovery in the Northeast. To encourage them in their recovery efforts and to be informed of public hearings, write: Paul Nickerson, Chief of Endangered Species, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 300 Westgate Center Drive, Hadley, MA 01035-8200. Send a copy of your letter to your governor at the appropriate address below:

↳ Gov. Angus King, 1 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333

↳ Gov. Jeanne Shaheen, State House, Concord, NH 03301

↳ Gov. George Pataki, Executive Chamber, State Capitol, Albany, NY 12224

↳ Gov. Howard Dean, 109 State Street,

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P.O. Box 157
Kents Hill, ME 04349

YES! I want to support the Coalition to Restore the Eastern Wolf. I enclose my tax-deductible contribution of ___\$25 ___\$50 ___\$100 ___\$250 or ____.

I want to hear the song of the wolf in the Northeast. Please keep me posted on what I can do to bring wolves back.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/ STATE/ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____